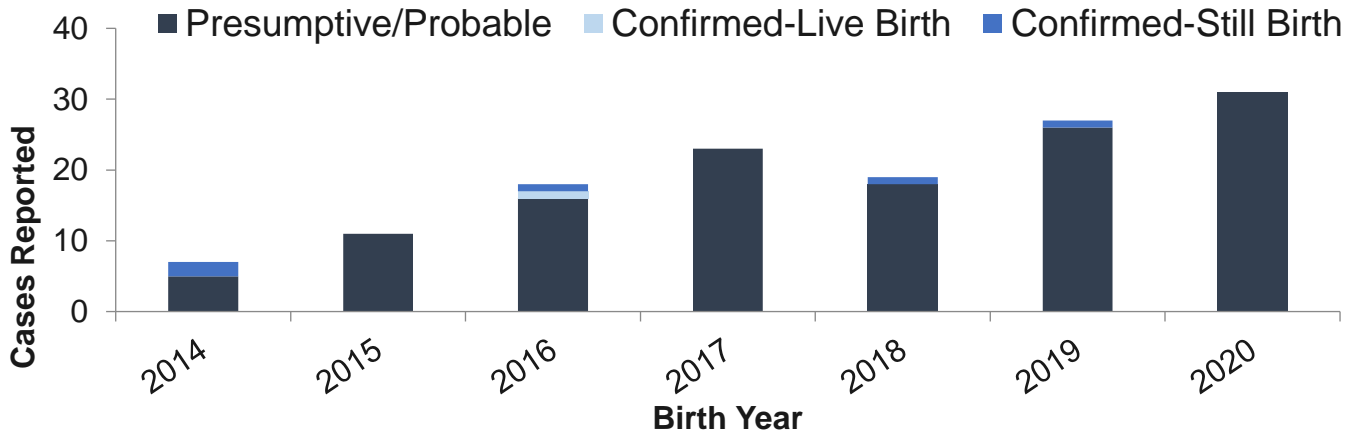




# Congenital Syphilis in North Carolina, 2020

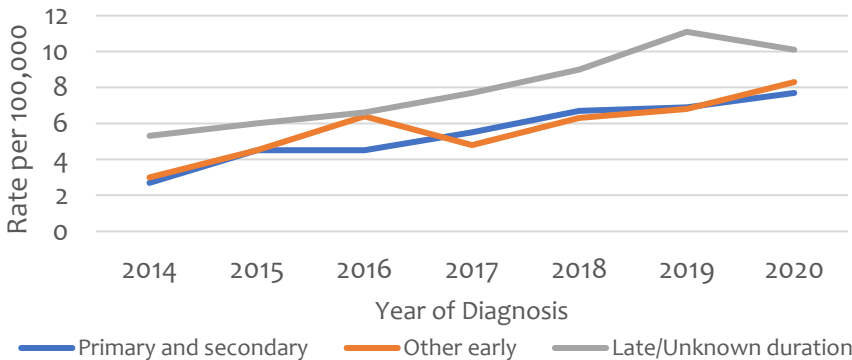


## Congenital syphilis cases increased in 2020



## Syphilis continues to increase in women 14-44

Syphilis Rates among Women aged 14-44 by Syphilis Stage  
North Carolina, 2014-2020

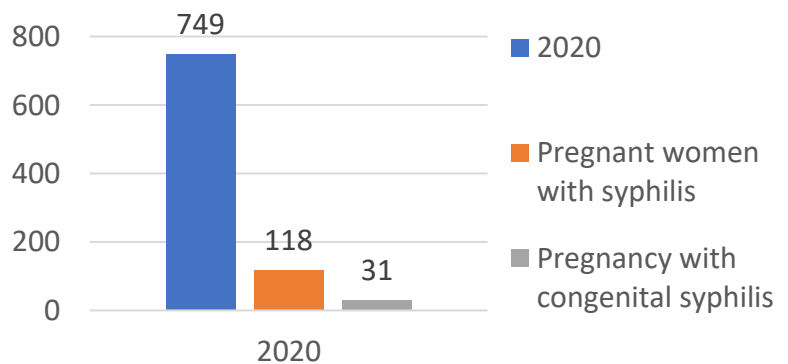


In 2020, 341 women were diagnosed with primary, secondary, or other early syphilis, and 214 were diagnosed with late/unknown duration syphilis.

**Most women with syphilis during pregnancy are treated effectively**

**Most congenital syphilis is prevented**

### Women with Syphilis of Any Stage, NC 2020



Data Source: North Carolina Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NC EDSS) (data as of April 21, 2022).

Contact Us:  
North Carolina DHHS  
Communicable Disease Branch  
Phone: (919) 733-3419

Mailing Address: Communicable Disease Branch Epidemiology Section  
1902 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1902

Prepared by the HIV/STD/Hepatitis Surveillance Unit  
Created on 04/19/2021



# Congenital Syphilis in North Carolina, 2020



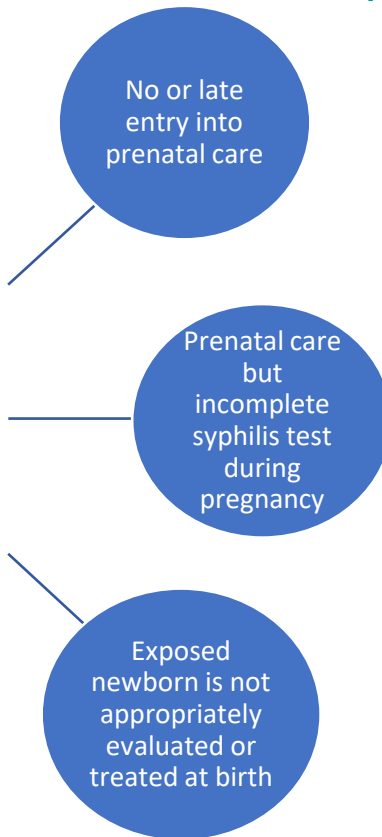
## Syphilis testing during pregnancy is required for ALL women in NC

- Perform a thorough sexual health and behavioral risk assessment at every prenatal visit.
- Testing for syphilis is required at the first prenatal visit, between 28-30 weeks gestation, and at delivery.
- Treat all sexual partners of pregnant women diagnosed with syphilis to prevent re-infection.

## Syphilis testing during pregnancy prevents congenital syphilis

### How does a baby end up with congenital syphilis?

Findings from a review of NC congenital syphilis cases, 2016-2020



### How to prevent?

- Identify women early in pregnancy and link to prenatal care.
- Test all women at delivery! This is the best safety net to identify infection among women and infants who had no or little prenatal care.
- Ensure **ALL** required testing is performed during pregnancy as described above and treat per the CDC guidelines.
- Ensure babies born to women who tested positive for syphilis are appropriately evaluated and treated for infection, per CDC guidelines.

### What YOU can do

You deserve to have a healthy pregnancy and infant. Make sure that your doctor is testing you through out your pregnancy for STIs.